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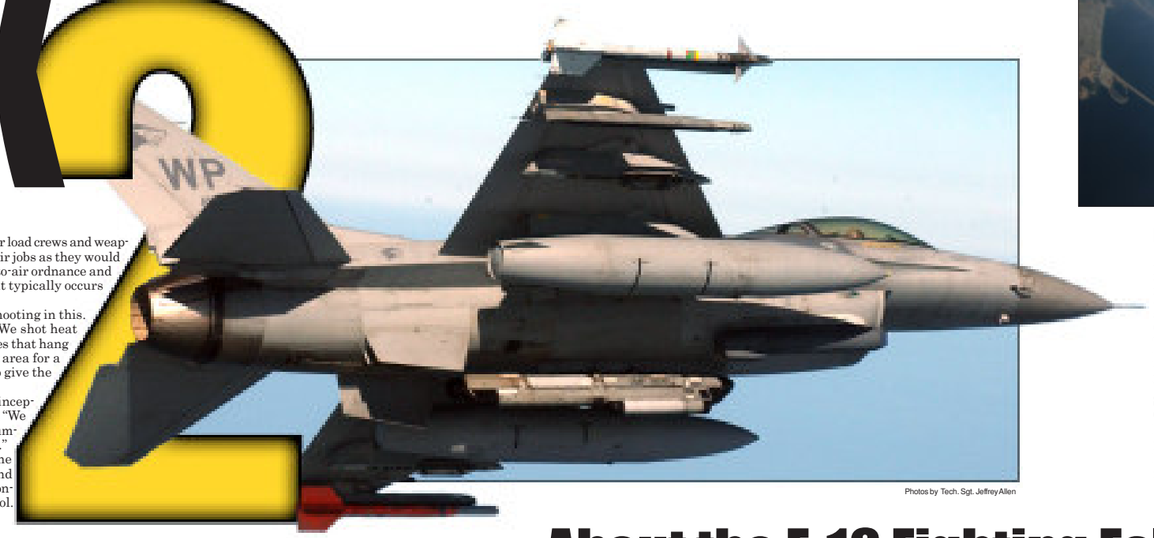

Photos by Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Allen

A Juvat pilot flys his F-16D on his way toward a military operating area Wednesday. He flew wingman for a fellow pilot, who was one of the first to fire a live AIM-9 Sidewinder air-to-air missle here. The Wolf Pack flew the training missions through the end of the week.

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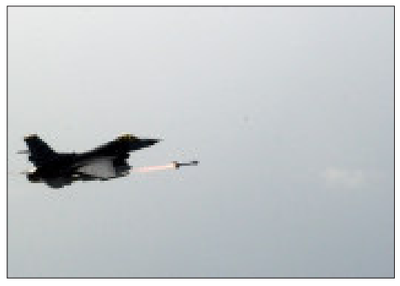
all the units in 7th Air Force."

"From a maintenance and weapons perspective, our load crews and weapons personnel get the opportunity to accomplish their jobs as they would in combat conditions. The jets take off with live air-to-air ordnance and return with empty rails. Again, an opportunity that typically occurs only at Combat Archer," Col. Tippett said.

"Every fighter squadron on the ROK did some shooting in this. The A-10s from Osan provided the targets for us. We shot heat seeking missiles so they dropped…illumination flares that hang under parachutes allowing us to stay in the target area for a significant period of time. We shot at those flares to give the missiles something to guide on."

"This has been about a 10-month process from inception to culmination at this point," Col. Wimmer said. "We hope this will be a recurring thing here. We have a number of munitions that are available for us to expend."

"This exercise demonstrates, once again, that the Wolf Pack leads the combat air forces in training and preparedness for the mission. Our squadrons train constantly and are ready to take the fight north," Col. Wimmer said.



A Juvat pilot fires an AIM-9 Sidewinder missile Wednesday during a training mission. The Sidewinder has been in the Air Force inventory since 1956 and is guided by a solid-state infrared homing device.

General Fighting Falcon Characteristics

Function: Multirole fighter
Builder: Lockheed Martin Corp.
Power Plant: F-16C/D: one Pratt and Whitney F100-PW-200/220/229 or General Electric F110-GE-100/129
Thrust: F-16C/D, 27,000 pounds
Length: 49 feet, 5 inches
Height: 16 feet
Wingspan: 32 feet, 8 inches
Speed: 1,500 mph
Ceiling: Above 50,000 feet
Maximum Takeoff Weight: 37,500 pounds
Range: More than 2,000 miles ferry range
Armament: One M-61A1 20mm multibarrel cannon with 500 rounds; external stations can carry up to six air-to-air missiles, conventional air-to-air and air-to-surface munitions and electronic countermeasure pods
Unit cost: F-16A/B , $14.6 million (fiscal 98 constant dollars); F-16C/D,$18.8 million (fiscal 98 constant dollars)
Crew: F-16C, one; F-16D, one or two
Date Deployed: January 1979
Inventory: Active force, F-16C/D, 738; Reserve, F-16C/D, 69; and Air National Guard, F-16C/D, 473

About the F-16 Fighting Falcon

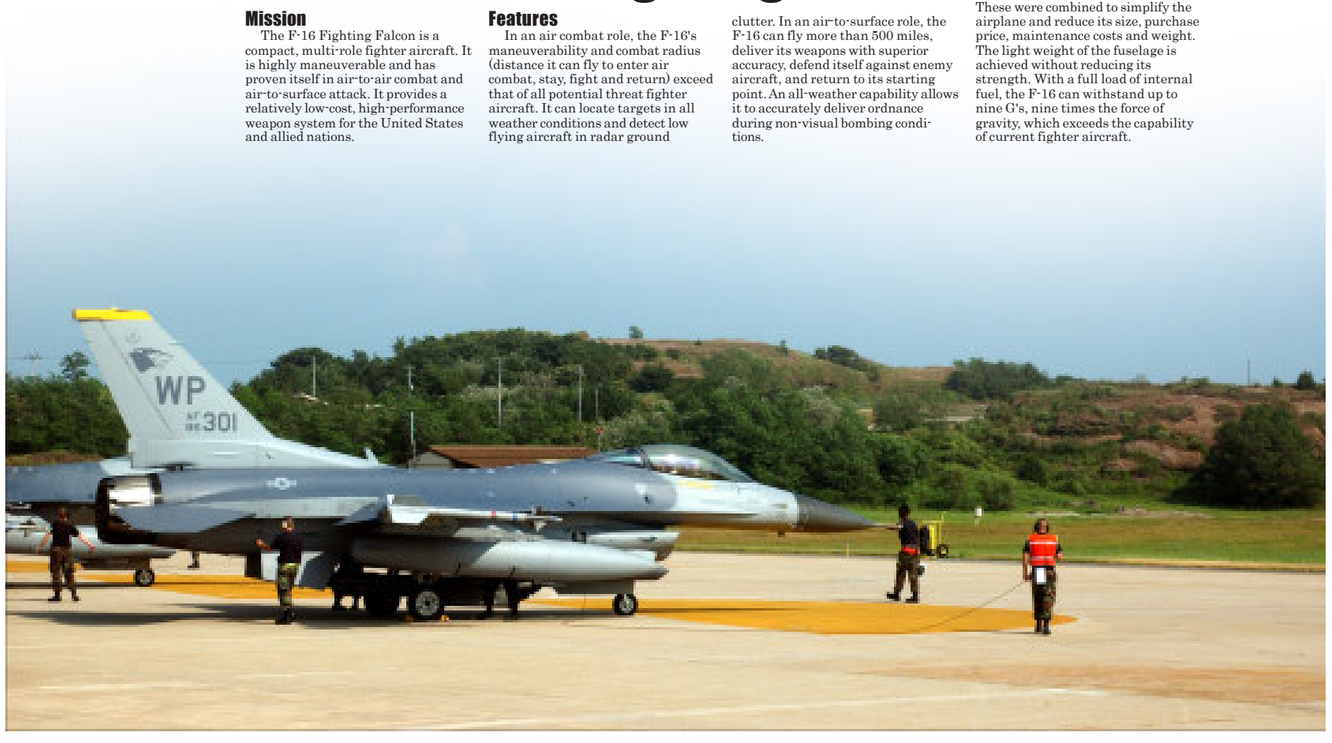
Mission

The F-16 Fighting Falcon is a compact, multi-role fighter aircraft. It is highly maneuverable and has proven itself in air-to-air combat and air-to-surface attack. It provides a relatively low-cost, high-performance weapon system for the United States and allied nations.

Features

In an air combat role, the F-16's maneuverability and combat radius (distance it can fly to enter air combat, stay, fight and return) exceed that of all potential threat fighter aircraft. It can locate targets in all weather conditions and detect low flying aircraft in radar ground clutter. In an air-to-surface role, the F-16 can fly more than 500 miles, deliver its weapons with superior accuracy, defend itself against enemy aircraft, and return to its starting point. An all-weather capability allows it to accurately deliver ordnance during non-visual bombing conditions.

In designing the F-16, advanced aerospace science and proven reliable systems from other aircraft such as the F-15 and F-111 were selected. These were combined to simplify the airplane and reduce its size, purchase price, maintenance costs and weight. The light weight of the fuselage is achieved without reducing its strength. With a full load of internal fuel, the F-16 can withstand up to nine G's, nine times the force of gravity, which exceeds the capability of current fighter aircraft.



Flightline personnel prepare a Juvat for takeoff prior to his mission. The Fighter Squadrons here fired live AIM-9 Sidewinder missiles as flares dropped from Osan AB A-10 Thunderbolts.

AIM-9 Sidewinder in a nutshell

Mission

The AIM-9 Sidewinder is a supersonic, heat-seeking, air-to-air missile carried by fighter aircraft. It has a high-explosive warhead and an infrared heat-seeking guidance system. The Sidewinder was developed by the U.S. Navy for fleet air defense and was adopted by the U.S. Air Force for fighter aircraft use. Early versions of the missile were extensively used in the Southeast Asia conflict.

Features

The AIM-9 has a cylindrical body with a roll-stabilizing rear wing/rolleron assembly. Also, it has detachable, double-delta control surfaces behind the nose that improve the missile's maneuverability. Both rollerons and control surfaces are in a cross-like arrangement.

The missile's main components are an infrared homing guidance section, an active optical target detector, a high-explosive warhead and a rocket motor.

The infrared guidance head enables the missile to home in on target aircraft engine exhaust. An infrared unit costs less than other types of guidance systems, and can be used in day/night and electronic countermeasures conditions. The infrared seeker also permits the pilot to launch the missile, then leave the area or take evasive action while the missile guides itself to the target.

Courtesy photo

General Characteristics

Primary Function: Air-to-air missile
Contractor: Raytheon and Loral Martin
Power Plant: Hercules and Bermite Mk 36 Mod 11
Length: 9 feet, 5 inches (2.87 meters)
Diameter: 5 inches (0.13 meters)
Finspan: 2 feet, 3/4 inches (0.63 meters)
Warhead: Annular blast fragmentation warhead
Launch Weight: 190 pounds (85.5 kilograms)
Guidance System: Solid-state, infrared homing system
Introduction Date: 1956
Unit Cost: Approximately $84,000
Inventory: Classified

(Information and photos provided by http://www.af.mil)